

**City of Chula Vista
Parks and Recreation Commission
Minutes**

**Thursday – 6:30 p.m.
Mercy Conference Rm**

**July 17, 2003
430 F Street**

Meeting called to order by Chair Larry Perondi at 6:31 p.m.

Staff Present: Buck Martin, Director of Recreation
 Dave Byers, Director of Public Works Operations
 John Krizan, Landscape Architect
 Brian Cox, Principal Recreation Manager
 Ted Nelson, Recreation Supervisor III
 Margarita Cellano, Recording Secretary

Guests: Susan Watry, Crossroads II, Representative
 Carlene Scott, CV Resident
 Jerry Scott, CV Resident
 Will Hyde, (previous CV Mayor) CV Resident
 Sandy Duncan, CV Resident
 Steve Sharp, CV Resident
 Cynthia Sharp, CV Resident

1. Roll Call/Motion to Excuse

Members Present: Commissioner Rude, Commissioner Salcido, Commissioner Weidner (arrived at 6:40 p.m.), Commissioner Strahl, and Commissioner Rios, Commissioner Ramos, Chair Perondi

2. Public Comments – Public will speak when item is heard on the Agenda.

3. Action Items

- a. **Minutes of June 19, 2003 Special Meeting** – MSC (Strahl/Rude Vote: 7-0-0-0) to approve the minutes as presented.
- b. **Minutes of May 15, 2003** – MSC (Ramos/Rios Vote: 7-0-0-0) to approve the minutes as presented.

- c. **Approving a Change in Venue Resolution for the Parks and Recreation Commission** – Mr. Martin (Director of Recreation) informed the Commission that they would need to adopt a resolution to change their meeting venue from their current meeting venue to the John Lippitt Public Works Center.

MSC (Salcido/Rios) (Vote 7-0-0-1) to approve Parks and Recreation Commission Resolution 2003-01 that will change the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting venue from the Ken Lee Building to the John Lippitt Public Works Center.

- d. **Appointment of Parks and Recreation Commission Chair and Vice-Chair for FY 03 / 04** – Mr. Martin (Director of Recreation) informed the Commission that the Commission would need to appoint a Chair and Vice Chair for FY 03 / 04.

MSC (Rude/Ramos) (Vote 7-0-0-0) to appoint Larry Perondi as Chair for the Parks and Recreation Commission for FY 03 / 04.

MSC (Strahl/Rios) (Vote 7-0-0-0) to appoint Don Salcido as Vice-Chair for the Parks and Recreation Commission for FY 03 / 04.

4. Information Items

MSC (Strahl/Rude)(Vote 7-0-0-0) to move item 4b out of order and be heard first

- b. **Friendship Park Rose Garden Concept** - Mr. Krizan (Landscape Architect) discussed the proposed Rose Garden concept that was suggested by Councilmember Mary Salas. Mr. Krizan commented that this Rose Garden would be similar to the City of San Diego Rose Garden in Balboa Park, but smaller in scale. Mr. Krizan also discussed inviting a rose garden club or group that would provide expertise and assist with the maintenance of the garden. Mr. Krizan discussed installing art sculpture elements. In addition, eventually introducing a play structure.

Commissioner Rude asked why Friendship Park could not be kept as a passive park; maybe develop a stage for concerts; and introducing art structure element to the park is not conducive to the park because it would take away space from the park. In addition, sidewalks surrounding Friendship Park should be fixed, and should be a higher priority than implementing a rose garden.

Commissioner Weidner commented that Friendship Park is shaded by trees and would not be conducive to accommodating a rose garden. In addition, because of budgetary concerns, it would not be a good idea to implement a garden, when other items, such as fixing the walkways in the park need to be addressed.

Mr. Krizan responded that solar orientation is a requirement for the rose garden; and an area in the park has been selected to satisfy this requirement.

Ms. Sandy Duncan of 262 Davidson commented that many citizens of Chula Vista are concerned about Friendship Park and would like to be involved in the planning and upgrading of the park. Ms. Duncan distributed Friendship Park History for the past two-years. The citizens have asked that the park not be destroyed and be kept passive. In addition, Ms. Duncan stated that they received notification from the City Manager that the City Attorney received approval for the removal of the Sea Chantey. Ms. Duncan also informed the Commission of recommendations of Crossroads II, and they include: ensure that trees are not removed, include their group in any meetings pertaining to the updating of the park, and keep the park as a passive park.

Ms. Watry informed the Commission that the City Manager informed their group (Crossroads II) approval was received in removing the Sea Chantey. In addition, do not implement a tot lot, do not implement art element, and keep the park passive. The City under utilizes the park; City should schedule concerts.

Ms. Carleen Scott informed the Commission that she and her husband often take their grandson to the park. Feels that a tot lot is not necessary for children to truly enjoy Friendship Park. If the City feels they need to implement an art element, the sculpture should be of a teacher reading to children.

Mr. Jerry Scott informed the Commission that Friendship Park should be kept passive, and discussed the park improvements to Eucalyptus Park and "J" Street.

Mr. Krizan (Landscape Architect) clarified for the group that a tot-lot was not wanted as a park element.

Commissioner Strahl informed everyone that he would like to see Friendship Park kept as a passive park.

Commissioner Rios stated that an herb garden would do very well.

Chair Perondi wanted to clarify on discussion and that includes:

- Opportunity for space to have concerts in the park
- Move walkways in the park as needed
- Fix sidewalks (due to root structure of trees)
- Deal effectively with safety issues (homeless loitering)
- Not in favor of tot-lot
- In favor of passive park

- a. **Library Site – Bonita** – Mr. Martin (Director of Recreation) informed the Commission that the acquisition of the three-acres of land adjacent to the Golf Course were purchased for cash, and that no references to any restriction on the use of the property were noted.

Commissioner Strahl requested that Mr. Martin or Mr. Griffin return in August with clarification on the subject.

- c. **Updated Greenbelt Master Plan Meeting/Hearing Schedule:** Mr. Martin (Director of Recreation) informed the Commission of the updated Greenbelt Master Plan Hearing Schedule.

5. **Unfinished Business - None**

6. **New Business - None**

7. **Written Communications –**

- a. **Chula Vista Bayfront Master Plan Newsletter** – Margarita informed the Commission that the Department received the Bayfront newsletter for their information.

8. **Commission Comments -**

- a. Commissioner Salcido indicated that the Youth Sports Council had suggested that bike lanes not be placed adjacent to parks unless there was room for parking.

Mr. Byers (Director of Public Works Operations) informed the Commission that staff always attempts to have on street parking adjacent to the parks; as was being done at Veterans Park.

Discussion held on bike lanes on E. Palomar at Heritage Park.

Commissioner Salcido requested that it would be helpful if a representative from Traffic Engineering give them a presentation on this topic in August.

Chair Perondi stated that bike lanes are needed for those that like to ride bikes.

Commissioner Strahl asked about the Rohr Park Master Plan Report, and asked about a cost proposal and timeline (with different alternatives and costs). Requested that this information is brought forward in August.

Chair Perondi informed the Commission that he accepted the Proclamation from the City Council for July as Recreation and Park Month, and attended the Council Meeting for the approval of the Recreation Department Strategic Plan.

Commissioner Salcido requested that recognition is given to Youth Sports Council members who devote their time to enhancing and enriching the lives the youth. Also requested that this item is placed on the Agenda.

Commissioner Ramos thanked Mr. Nelson (Recreation Supervisor III) for having an effective basketball program and process. Her grandson enjoys playing basketball, and has a great time.

9. **Staff Comments -**

- a. Recreation Monthly Report – Mr. Martin (*Director of Recreation*) briefly discussed the monthly report.

10. **Other - None**

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. to the next meeting of August 21, 2003 to be held in the John Lippitt Public Works Center Lunch Room

Submitted by:
Margarita Cellano
Recording Secretary